

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A surge protector comprising:

an insulating member having a conductive film divided by a discharge gap interposed therebetween;

a pair of main discharge electrode members containing Cr(chromium), and one or more of Fe(iron), Ni(nickel), Co(cobalt) and Cu(copper), opposite to each other contacting the conductive film;

an insulating tube fitted to the pair of main discharge electrode members opposite to each other to seal both the insulating member and a sealing gas inside thereof; and

oxide films having an average thickness in the range of 0.01 to 2.0 μm formed on main discharge surfaces of the pair of main discharge electrode members by performing an oxidation treatment, the oxide films having a Cr (chromium) concentration that is higher at an exterior surface than at an interior surface adjacent to the respective electrode member.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A surge protector comprising:

a column-shaped insulating member having a conductive film divided by a discharge gap interposed in an intermediate of a peripheral surface;

a pair of main discharge electrode members containing Cr(chromium), and one or more of Fe(iron), Ni(nickel), Co(cobalt) and Cu(copper), opposite to each other on both ends of the insulating member contacting the conductive film;

an insulating tube fitted to the pair of main discharge electrode members opposite to each other to seal both the insulating member and a sealing gas inside thereof,

wherein the main discharge electrode members comprise:

peripheral portions attached to end faces of the insulating tube by brazing filler metal;

protrusive supporting portions protruding toward an inside and an axial direction of the insulating tube and supporting the insulating member in the radial inner surface thereof, and

oxide films having an average thickness in the range of 0.01 to 2.0 μm formed on main discharge surfaces of the protrusive supporting portions of the pair of main discharge electrode members opposite to each other, by performing an oxidation treatment, the oxide films having a Cr (chromium) concentration that is higher at an exterior surface than at an interior surface adjacent to the respective electrode member.

Claims 3 - 11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (New): The surge protector of claim 1, wherein the Cr concentration of oxide films is at least 10% at the exterior surface.